



News Release

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Contact: Keith Lind (207) 622-8551

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U.S. Small Business Administration Announces Annual Award Winners

Naima Abdirhmon, Owner of ARWO Learning Center, LLC Receives SBA's Minority Owned Small Business of the Year Award for Maine

Augusta, Maine – The U.S. Small Business Administration is pleased to announce that Naima Abdirhmon, Owner of ARWO Learning Center, LLC of Portland, has been selected to receive the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2017 Minority Owned Small Business of the Year Award for Maine.

"ARWO's success is just one example of the ways that small businesses have a positive impact on their communities," said Amy Bassett, SBA District Director for Maine. "Naima's personal story also illustrates the important contributions of immigrant populations in Maine," added Bassett.

ARWO Learning Center, LLC is a full service daycare for infants to pre-school aged children in Portland that focuses on providing multi-cultural experiences for its students. The business was started in 2014 and expanded in 2015. Dr. Abdirhmon is a refugee from Somalia, whose mother brought her family to the United States for a better life.

Dr. Abdirhmon was nominated for this award by Tae Chong, a certified business counselor at CEI. "I'm feeling honored to have receive the award. Receiving an SBA award is more encouragement to strive towards our goal of providing the best quality childcare in Maine" said Abdirhmon.

Dr. Abdirhmon will be honored at the 2017 SBA Small Business Awards Celebration on May 15, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport. For more information about the event, please the Maine District Office's website at www.sba.gov.me or contact Keith Lind at keith.lind@sba.gov or 207-622-8551.

Naima Abdirhmon, Owner of ARWO Learning Center, LLC in Portland



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